

**Memorandum of the Meeting
Regular Study Session/Meeting
Twenty-Sixth Town Council of Highland
Monday, April 18, 2011**

The regular study session of the Twenty-Sixth Town Council of the Town of Highland was convened at the regular place, the Highland Municipal, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, in the plenary meeting chambers on **Monday, April 18, 2011** at the time of 7:10 o'clock p.m.

Silent Roll Call: Councilors Dan Vassar, Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, Konnie Kuiper and Brian Novak were present. A quorum was attained. The Clerk-Treasurer Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings.

Others present: Chuck Haber and Lillian Haber, residents; and Peter T. Hojnicky, Police Chief; and Kenneth J. Mika, Building Commissioner.

General Substance of Matters Discussed

1. Mrs. Haber also expressed concern about a neighbor's Recreational Vehicle that is parked in compliance with the current code but still obscures her view. The discussion included whether or not the current ordinance should be modified and whether or not the current summer time period allowing up to 72 hours parking on the street, should be modified to reflect a lesser time. It was also noted that during the spring and summer, the RV could be parked in front of the building line, provided the vehicle is on concrete and is not blocking the sidewalk.

The discussion included the current absence of clear guidance regarding the parking of commercial vehicles in residential districts. The discussion included consideration of tractor-trailers and similarly situated vehicles.

The Building Commissioner revealed that he has some suggestions for improvements or enhanced language that may make enforcement more effective.

2. The Town Council heard from Mrs. Lillian Haber, 9042 Pettit Drive, Highland, regarding a continuing challenge that she experiences from a neighbor's dog that is unleashed and leaving animal waste in some cases. It was suggested that the neighbor while walking the dog with a retractable leash, is permitted to allow the dog to go in neighboring lawns.

It was suggested that the existing animal control ordinance may have sufficient provisions to address the issue as described. The discussion included a consideration of a possible ban on the retractable leashes. No determination was made as to this suggestion.

It was noted that should the event occur again, Mrs. Haber should call the police for response.

3. The Metropolitan Police Chief reported on a new round of Federal COPS Grants that could be used to keep existing staffing, for full salary and benefits. It would not be used to hire additional officers. The funding would only run for three years.
4. The Town Council and the Building Commissioner discussed the recent suggestion by Griffith, that the carnival groups will no longer be permitted to park (camp) at Kuiper's Griffith property. It was further noted that parking is prohibited in the Parks and other areas in Highland. This will have an impact on other carnivals in Town. The discussion included whether or not the current prohibition on park use for camping should be modified. Alternative camping or parking sites were discussed, such as behind the Public Works Facility, the Fire Training Site, or possibly Wicker Park. It was also discussed that the issue belonged to the carnival company and should not be placed upon the Town to find a campsite.

The Metropolitan Police Chief departed at this time.

5. The Town Council discussed with the Building Commissioner discussed a recent complaint regarding what the business owner had described as a type of "silver foil looking bunting" on

8700 block of Kennedy Avenue. It was noted that there were several enforcements regarding the building and signage code.

The Building Commissioner departed at this time.

6. The Town Council discussed the request made by Steve Wagner of the United Steel Workers of America LU 1010 inviting consideration of the Town Council for action by the Town Council. The Town Council discussed the sample resolutions noting that they referred particularly to the experiences of the City of Portage. It was noted that one resolution also dealt with primarily school issues. The Town Council suggested a review of historical sense of the council resolutions on this topic. The discussion included making sure that the wording is appropriate to the sentiments of the Town Council.
7. The Town Council and the Clerk-Treasurer discussed the forthcoming joint meeting with the Town Council of Griffith to discuss the optimizing opportunities that the two communities may enjoy. The meeting is set for **Thursday, April 29, 2011** at 6:30 p.m. here at the Highland Town Hall. The Town Council will need to ratify this meeting.

There being no further business to be discussed by the Town Council, the regular study session of the Town Council, of **Monday, April 18, 2011**, was adjourned at 9:12 o'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer